In Reissue Application of)	#1/2
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Beelman et al.)	deposited with the United States Postal
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U.S. Patent No. 5,919,507)	addressed to the Assistant Commissioner
)	for Patents, Box Reissue Washington, D. C. 20231,
Issued July 6, 1999)	on July 5, 2001.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the above-noted reissue application by adding the following new claims 9 through 37.

- A method for preserving fresh and processed mushrooms, comprising the steps of:

 contacting the mushrooms briefly with an antimicrobial buffer solution having a pH of at least about 9; and

 rinsing the mushrooms one or more times after said contacting step with a pH-neutralizing solution having a sufficient pH to return the mushrooms to the mushroom physiological pH of about 6.5.
- 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the antimicrobial buffer solution has a pH in the range of about 10.5 to about 11.0.
- 11. The method of claim 9 wherein the pH-neutralizing solution comprises a browning inhibitor.
- 12. The method of claim 9 wherein the pH-neutralizing solution comprises erythorbic acid.